

Patent  
Case No.: 48317US0303/12/02  
(NE)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: JAPUNTICH, DANIEL A.  
Application No.: 09/678580 Group Art Unit: 3761  
Filed: October 3, 2000 Examiner: Aaron J. Lewis  
Title: FIBROUS FILTRATION FACE MASK HAVING A NEW  
UNIDIRECTIONAL FLUID VALVE

AMENDMENTCERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 2, 2002, please amend this application as  
set forth below.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 33 and 66 as set forth below.

33. A filtering face mask that comprises:

- (a) a mask body that is adapted to fit over the nose and mouth of a wearer; and  
(b) an exhalation valve that is attached to the mask body, the exhalation valve

comprising:

- (1) a valve seat that comprises:

- (i) a seal surface;  
(ii) an orifice that is circumscribed by the seal surface; and  
(iii) a flap-retaining surface; and

- (2) a single flexible flap that has a stationary portion and only one free portion

and first and second opposing ends, the first end of the single flexible flap being  
associated with the stationary portion of the flap so as to remain at rest during an  
exhalation, and the second end being associated with the free portion of the flexible flap  
so as to be lifted away from the seal surface during an exhalation, the second end also

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**Remarks:****Attached are the following:**

- 1. Notice of Appeal (in duplicate); and**
- 2. Amendment.**